

PTA Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2017

Attendance:

Karen Stoner	Julia Zick	Laura Hettinger
Allison Decker	Kasey Wanless	Ricardo Morales
Kelly Housein	Branden Mueller	Kathy Alfonso
Karen Castilano	Joanna Masters	Anna Fulbright
Stefanie Rosti	Amy Gigler	Shawna Holden
Khalilah Hall	Khaalis Hall	Kevin Cropper

Karen Stoner, President, opened the meeting at 7:07 pm:

- Update on Boosterthon—
 - Amount raised to date--\$9,593 (goal of \$15,000)
 - All 50 States Challenge (pie in teachers' faces)—44/50 at this time
 - 316 of 489 students registered
 - 231 of 489 students submitted pledges (pledges remitted online for a \$2 service fee or by check filled out to AESPTA)
 - The FUN RUN will take place on Wednesday, November 15 at 9:30am for grades K-2 and at 2:30pm for grades 3-5.
 - Each class has come up with a team name and created a flag representing their team.
 - Every child in attendance on race day will receive a tshirt. Karen Stoner solicited for sponsors.
 - 1 lap=1/16 of a mile

Administrative Report from Dr. Holden:

- The School Improvement Committee will be meeting on December 4th at 8:20am. Any parent is welcome.
- American Education Week is this week. Parents are welcome to visit at any time.
- Conferences are next week; running from 1-7:20/7:50 pm. If you need to sign up after the window ending on 11/16, contact the front office. Specific invitations were sent to 75 families. 60 of those invitations were accepted and conferences set up. PTA to provide dinners for the teachers.
- November is America Recycles Month. 90 children created recyclables sculptures which are on display on multiple tables in the school.
- Wednesday is Stringapalooza. Unfortunately, Mr. Kranz has been out sick and will miss it. Other teachers have volunteered to help out.
- Thursday the 16th is the school's Spaghetti Dinner. There are two seatings at 5:15 and 6:30.
- Report cards will go home on Friday the 17th with MAP scores. Scores are available on CONNECT as well.
- The Turkey Trot is on Monday the 20th
- Pictures retakes will be on 11/28.
- Grades 3 and 5 will be taking the COGAT during the first week of December.
- How many people here read the Panther Press? Everyone raised their hands. The front office is getting frequent calls asking questions about information posted in the Panther Press. How can we better reach out to parents? PTA subcommittee planning to send out a survey to get information on the best way to reach parents. Parents

mentioned missing the old paper monthly calendars. The school system does not want hard copy communications. AES administration really wants parents to follow the school on Twitter.

- Fall Festival was a huge success. The kids had a great time!

PTACHC Report- Kathy Alfonso

- **Jump Start/ Homework Policy questions and answers.**
Bill Barnes went through a Q/A with delegates about the proposed program (part of Dr. Martirano's Redistricting Recommendation for High School)
- **HCDrug Free presentation: How we can better partner and combine resources regarding opioid education-**
Joan Webb discussed resources on programs/workshops she can bring to school or community partners
- **APFO**
Parents/Delegates went to the County Council Meeting for the APFO vote which was the same day as the PTACHC meeting.
The vote went past midnight and now it seems is not valid as it went over the 125 days allowed. Awaiting Office of Law Advice on vote invalidation.
- **Info on workshop: Parents survival Guide For The Elementary Years**
When: Nov 15th (6-8pm)
Where: Cradlerock Elementary School
FREE but registration is required at www.howardcountymd.gov/familyinstitute or by phone [410-313-1940](tel:410-313-1940)
- **Build on an "Awareness Program-Embracing Differences Initiative"** that could help bring "peer and parent awareness" to our school with regards to understanding differences (including disabilities), being fearless and kind, empathy, tolerance etc etc... If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Kathy. She is hoping to do workshops/activities for parent and for the kids too.

Financial Report – Kevin Cropper

- The 5th Grade Pancake Breakfast made \$1,056 dollars
- The AES PTA financial review has been completed. Thank you to Ricardo Morales and Mr. Carbol for assisting with that process.
- IRS forms have been completed and submitted
- Monthly financial review is available on a separate document

Committee Updates

- 5K—Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 3rd—committee meetings will begin in January, after the holidays. The permit from the police department has changed...there is new paperwork to complete. The Dunkin Donuts Cruiser will be at the Family Fun Run this year.
- Book Club- letters go home with students having a birthday that month. November was sent already and December letters will go out in a few weeks. The cost is \$15 per book. You can also donate a book if Ms. Hamming cannot find it.
- Book Fair- Book Fair is now Open!! Volunteer response has been really good and there are only a couple open spots remaining. If you would like to volunteer you can sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b45aba62ea3f49-vounteers>. Children may accompany volunteers during non-school hours. Teachers' wish list books are located in bins near Ms. Hamming's desk. Book fair hours are:
November 14th 3:45 – 7:00 (PTA meeting)
November 15th 9:30 – 6:30 (Boosterthon Fun Run)
November 16th 3:45 – 8:00 (Spaghetti Dinner)
November 17th 3:45 – 6:30
November 20th 1:00 – 7:00 (Parent Teacher Conferences)

November 21st 1:00 – 5:00 (*Parent Teacher Conferences*)

- Box Tops- First collection in October brought in \$394.50 - keep clipping!
- Cultural Arts- October 27- Window to my Heart – anti-bully assembly for grades K-2 and Fidos for Freedom assembly for grades 3-5. Working on Faith in the Flakes with Justin Berk- fundraising with the sale of t-shirts for a free assembly (we pay \$1,000 dollars or sell enough tshirts)
 - *Cultural Arts Committee will need a new chair next year! If interested, please contact Karen.*
- Family Fun- Math Night was a success, over 50 families attended. Planning a BINGO night for January with prize baskets created by each class.
- Fifth Grade- Pancake Breakfast was FANTASTIC! We will be holding another Bake Sale on Monday and Tuesday during parent teacher conferences
- Membership-193 families have joined (a few additional members after the reminder note when home)
- Spirit Wear- Orders were delivered last week- a few items on backorder and will be in soon.
- Restaurant Nights- Bertucci's in October earned \$345.48, Don't know how much Homeslyce on Nov. 7 earned- so far \$774.32 -
- Room Parents- Room parents should begin collecting funds for holiday and year end gifts. Email to go out to all room parents this week as a reminder. New this year is a way to account for money collected by room parents – please see handbook for updated guidelines. Halloween parade and parties went well!
- Staff Appreciation- We will be providing dinner for our teachers and staff on both Monday and Tuesday of parent teacher conferences
- Teacher Support- As teachers get more and more busy this time of year, please remind them to email Erin Morris at erin_walker78@hotmail.com. The committee of volunteers is ready to help with any cutting, sorting, etc.

8:00-New Business and/or Concerns

- PTA by-law review – vote on suggested changes
 - Ricardo went over each potential amendment and explained the rationale for proposed changes.
 - *By-laws were passed by all in attendance.*

Upcoming Dates to Remember

- Boosterthon Fun Run- Wednesday, November 15
 - 9:30- grades K-2
 - 2:30- grades 3-5
- Turkey Trot – Monday, November 20
 - 9:20-9:50-5th grade
 - 9:50-10:20-3rd Grade
 - 10:20-10:50-4th Grade
 - 10:50-11:20-K
 - 11:20-11:50-1st Grade
 - 11:50-12:20-2nd Grade
- Dine out Night-Chipotle – Friday, December 8--at the Dobbin location from 11am on
- Next PTA Meeting December 12,2017

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.